

Lastly, depending on the makeup of the Congress, it's important that somebody be here that stops some of the more extreme things that would have happened if I hadn't had the great good fortune, thanks to so many of you, to be standing here in the way of some things, as well as trying to get some things going.

So I just want to—I have learned—one of the reporters asked me earlier today if I really thought it was bad that I had had to work and hadn't been out on the campaign trail, and I said, “No, I'm not running, and I shouldn't have been out before now.” And I'm actually probably the only person in the room that's been on the other end of this deal, because I remember when President Reagan came to Arkansas in 1984, and he was more popular than you can imagine down there. And we both did just fine in the elections, so—[laughter]—if you get my drift.

I don't seek to tell anybody how to vote, but I do seek to say, based on my experience—because everybody knows who I'm for—but based on my experience, which unfortunately is getting longer every year, I don't know when we'll ever have another time like this. I've done everything I could to turn this country around, to pull this country together, to move our country forward. But we've got this huge opportunity here, that we can literally paint a picture of the future and make it happen, if we keep the prosperity going, instead of put it at risk by going into deficit; if we build on the progress of the last 8 years, instead of reverse those policies which brought it; if we keep working to build one America; and then if we take home the big challenges of the future.

I just think, if you go out and tell people that, tell young people that, they will understand what is at issue, and they will show up. And in a free society, that's all any of us can ask: Show up. Know what the differences are; have clarity on that. Make your decision, and the rest of us will happily embrace it. I think it will be quite a good decision if we get everybody there.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:58 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to John J. Johnson, director, National

Programs Department, NAACP; Norman Hill, president, A. Philip Randolph Institute; Wade Henderson, executive director, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights; Yvonne Scruggs-Leftwich, executive director and chief operating officer, Black Leadership Forum, Inc.; Weldon H. Latham, senior partner, Holland and Knight, and general counsel, National Coalition of Minority Businesses; and former Senator Dale Bumpers. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Statement on Signing Legislation To Provide a Plaque Commemorating Martin Luther King's “I Have a Dream” Speech

October 27, 2000

I am proud to sign legislation today authorizing placement of a marker commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s historic “I Have a Dream” speech at the Lincoln Memorial. Few leaders in American history have spoken with the eloquence, passion, and moral force that Dr. King did that day, uttering words that, a generation later, still echo in our hearts.

His call to action captured the spirit of an America struggling to fulfill its promise of freedom, of a democracy yet to honor all of its citizens. Even today, his words still inspire millions of people around the world who believe in the extraordinary power of non-violent change to bring about social justice.

Let all who visit the Lincoln Memorial pause to reflect upon Dr. King's words and strive to make that dream real in their hearts and daily lives.

NOTE: H.R. 2879, approved October 27, was assigned Public Law No. 106–365. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Statement on Signing an Executive Order Creating the Commission on Workers, Communities, and Economic Change in the New Economy

October 27, 2000

Today I am pleased to sign an Executive order creating a Commission on Workers,

Communities, and Economic Change in the New Economy. I would like to thank Representative Ken Bentsen for his leadership in helping workers and communities adapt to the new economy and for working with my administration to form this Commission.

International trade, technology, globalization, and the changing nature of work present extraordinary new opportunities for Americans but can also create real disruptions for American workers and communities. Vice President Gore and I have worked hard to empower workers and communities to take advantage of the many opportunities in this new economy, but there is still more we can do. This Commission will undertake a careful examination of the effectiveness of existing Federal programs to help workers and communities adjust to economic change and will identify the best practices of employers, communities, and public-private partnerships that have responded successfully to economic dislocations. The Commission's report, due next year, will help communities, employers, and workers respond to and benefit from these changes in our economy.

NOTE: This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

**Executive Order 13174—
Commission on Workers,
Communities, and Economic Change
in the New Economy**
October 27, 2000

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.), it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Establishment. There is established the "Commission on Workers, Communities, and Economic Change in the New Economy" (Commission). The Commission shall be composed of up to 14 persons to be appointed by the President from individuals who represent State or local agencies relating to workforce or community development, economists or other workforce development experts, labor organizations, business

leaders, and Members of Congress. The President shall designate a Chairperson from among the members of the Commission.

Sec. 2. Functions. The Commission shall conduct a study of matters relating to economic dislocation, and worker and community adjustment to such dislocations. In carrying out this study, the Commission shall examine:

- (a) the impact of international trade, technology, globalization, and the changing nature of work on both workers and their communities;
- (b) the effectiveness of existing Federal programs in assisting workers and communities in adjusting to economic change, including the adequacy of the design of such programs;
- (c) the strategies for providing workplace education and training to assist workers in acquiring new skills;
- (d) the strategies for assisting communities to adjust to changing economic conditions and changes in the mix of employment opportunities in those communities;
- (e) the role of public-private partnerships in implementing job training and community assistance; and
- (f) the role of income support and economic security programs in facilitating worker adjustment to rapidly changing economic circumstances.

Sec. 3. Report. Not later than 12 months after the first meeting of the Commission, the Commission shall prepare and submit to the President and the Congress a report that contains a detailed statement of the findings and conclusions of the Commission's study carried out under section 2 of this order, and includes:

- (1) a summary of best practices and policies carried out by employers and public-private partnerships in providing workers with the education and training needed to effectively adjust to economic change;
- (2) a summary of best practices and policies carried out by or on behalf of communities in responding to large-scale economic changes; and
- (3) any recommendations relating to legislative and administrative actions that the